

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated March 21, 2005, the cited references, and the Examiner's reasons for rejection of the claims. In response, Applicants have cancelled claims 18-20 and provide formal drawings. Applicants respectfully submit that, based on this Amendment and Response, this application is in condition for full allowance, and Applicants respectfully request such allowance.

Drawings

In the Office Action mailed March 21, 2005, the Examiner objected to the drawings, requesting corrected formal drawings. Formal drawings labeled "replacement sheets" are enclosed with this response.

Response to Rejections under 35 U.S.C. Section 112

In the Office Action dated March 21, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. Section 112. Applicants have cancelled claims 18-20 obviating this rejection.

Response to Rejections under 35 U.S.C. Section 102

In the Office Action dated March 21, 2005, the Examiner rejected claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. Section 102 as being anticipated by Elko (U.S. Patent No. 6,862,595). Applicants have cancelled claims 18-20 obviating this rejection.

Response to Rejections under Section 103

In the Office Action dated March 21, 2005, the Examiner rejected remaining claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 based on Elko and Faulkner (U.S. Patent No. 6,434,605), and claim 17 further in view of Cloud (U.S. Patent No. 5,634,127). The Examiner's position being that each and every element of Applicant's invention as claimed is shown in the Elko and Faulkner references and combining these references would have been obvious.

The Elko reference is directed to using the list processing capabilities of the coupling facility to implement a message queue that is shared by queue managers residing on different systems. (Elko col. 3, lines 57-60) Coupling facilities enable high performance sharing of data between applications on each node of the cluster by global locking and cache coherency management mechanisms and provides a cluster-wide queuing mechanism for workload

distribution and message passage between nodes. (Elko col. 1, lines 58-63) Essentially, Elko discloses a single message queue that is shared by multiple queue managers, the novelty being that the single shared message queue uses a list structure the can be implemented without requiring any explicit locking protocols.. (Elko col. 4, lines 31-32, 44-46, 65-67)

The Faulkner reference is directed to a queue mechanism that overcomes the shortcomings of queues built using IBM's MQ Series software. MQ Series provides no mechanism to deal with channel problems. (Faulkner col. 2, line 64 - col. 3, line 5) Specifically, the Faulkner provides a mechanism for an MQ Series queue to monitor and automatically detect and recover from a channel initiator/listener problem, in a distributed computing system, and to detect and recover from message sequence error. (Faulkner col. 3, lines 15-18 and lines 28-29).

In contrast, Applicant's disclosure is directed to a system, such as for use by network administrators, to monitor multiple queues and multiple attributes of those queues simultaneously to enable the administrator to effectively manage those queues. The invention, as claimed in Applicants' claim 1, includes a monitoring system in a distributed computing environment where client-server applications operate on a server platform and multiple client platforms. A queue-based message system controls the exchange of messages between the client and server applications. The queue-based message system includes a messaging application provided on the server platform that manages a plurality of queues. The monitor system is operable for selecting the plurality of queues to monitor, and selecting and also displaying multiple attributes describing each of the plurality of queues. In this manner, an administrator may, for example, quickly determine the status of and take corrective action as necessary for any of the plurality of queues, by viewing the display of a few attributes of each of the queues.

Elko provides a single message queue that is shared by multiple queue managers, and Faulkner provides a software component for a queue that automatically detects and recovers from channel and sequence errors. As discussed in greater detail below, these references are directed to systems unlike Applicants' claimed invention. As such the cited references, either alone or in combination, fail to teach, disclose, or suggest Applicants' invention as claimed which includes a computing environment having a system for monitoring multiple queues that provides for selecting multiple queues and selecting multiple attributes describing these multiple queues, the system generating a display that includes current values for the selected attributes for each of the

queues.

In the Office Action, the Examiner points to Elko (Figure 12, col. 10, lines 38-61) as disclosing Applicants' monitoring system. Applicants respectfully submits that the cited text fails to disclose Applicants' system for monitoring multiple attributes of multiple queues, but instead discloses one or more lists 1106 and a set of user controls 1108 for a shared queue manager 108 on a system 102. Applicants respectfully submit that a set of controls for a shared queue manager fails to teach, disclose, or suggest Applicant's system for monitoring a queue-based message system monitoring a plurality of queues, selecting at least two of the queues to monitor, and selecting a plurality of attributes of these queues.

The Examiner points to Elko (col. 8, lines 56-59, and col. 12, 51-61) as disclosing the monitor's operability to select multiple queues. The cited text discloses moving selected list entries 204 to make the message 204 invisible to the other shared queue managers 108, to promote the list processing capabilities and functionality that is the object of Elko. The other portion of the cited text is directed to scanning and creating a TRQS (Thread Related QueueS) 1508 for the shared queue 106 if one does not already exist. TROP (Thread Related Operations) 1510 are then queued to the TRQS 1508. Applicants respectfully submit that moving messages to make them invisible to share queue managers or scanning and creating thread related queues fails to teach, suggest or disclose Applicants' invention, as claimed in claim 1, of selection of a plurality of queues to monitor.

The Examiner cites Elko (trigger depth, col. 26, lines 48-60) as disclosing selecting a plurality of attributes for each of the selected queues. The cited text discloses actions to be taken by list processing when a read request of a committed put fails. In this, case Elko discloses that an instance of the shared queue manager, the CF Manager 1402, will return a code indicating that no entry is available. In response, the data manager 1464 calls the CSQEBMO1 module to request a list transition or sublist monitoring support. The interface into CSQEBMO1 provides a type for the monitoring requested, which includes Monitoring_Priority, Monitor_Key, Monitoring_Depth. The types of monitoring requested in the Elko reference is to address when a read request for a committed put fails, which is not analogous to the selection by a monitoring system of a plurality of attributes for one or more queues. Elko discloses providing the type of monitoring when requesting either list transition or sublist monitoring support for list processing

to implement a message queue that is shared by queue managers on different systems. Applicants respectfully submit that the Elko reference, either alone or in combination with other references, fails to teach, disclose, or even suggest Applicant's invention, as claimed in claim 1 of a monitoring system operable to monitor a plurality of queues and for selecting at least two of the plurality of attributes describing one or more of the plurality of queues.

The Examiner noted that Elko does not disclose generating a display that includes a current value for the selected attributes for each one of the selected queues, but the Examiner points to Faulkner (col. 7, lines 31-46 and 58-62) as disclosing this feature of Applicants' claim. The cited portions of Faulkner disclose a command to display, such as on a video display, status information indicating whether the channel initiator and channel listener are active. Applicants respectfully submit that displaying whether or not the channel initiator or listeners are active on a single queue fails to teach, disclose, or suggest generating a display which includes a current value for the plurality of attributes for each one of the selected plurality of queues, as in Applicants' claim 1.

The Examiner's suggestion being that combining the display of channel initiator and listener status information with the teaching of Elko would have been obvious and would result in Applicant's invention. As stated above, Elko fails to provide the disclosure, teaching, or suggestion of Applicants' invention, as claimed in claim 1. Furthermore, neither of the cited references provide any motivation or suggestion for the combination suggested by the Examiner. For all these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the invention as claimed in claim 1 is allowable and Applicants earnestly seek such allowance.

Applicants' claim 2 includes the additional feature that each of the plurality of queues are local queues. The portions of Elko cited by the Examiner in rejecting claim 2 are directed to techniques for rollback counting to maintain consistency with local queues. However this fails to teach that the plurality of queues selected for monitoring are local queues.

Applicants' claims 3-9 are directed to selection of particular attributes that will be displayed for management and monitoring by Applicants' system. Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references, either alone or in combination provide any disclosure, teaching, or suggestion regarding the selection of multiple attributes to promote monitoring and

management of multiple queues, as provided in Applicants' claims 3-9. Further, claim 6 is directed to the first and second selected attributes being unique to local queues. The cited references fail to teach the selection or inclusion of attributes unique to local queues in a display to manage and monitor multiple queues. For this reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-9 are allowable and request the Examiner to pass same to allowance.

The Examiner rejected the remaining independent claims 10 and 15 on the same basis as claim 1. For the reasons stated above, which are hereby incorporated by reference, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references, either alone or in combination, fail to teach, disclose, or suggest, Applicants' invention as claimed in independent claims 10 and 15. Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 11-14 and 16-17 are allowable for these reasons, since these claims include each and every element of the independent claims from which they depend, and also include additional novel elements. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request allowance of dependent claims 11-14 and 16-17.

Applicants' invention as claimed, in at least claim 1, includes a computing environment having a system for monitoring multiple queues that provides for selecting multiple queues and selected multiple attributes describing multiple queues, the system further generating a display that includes current values for the selected attributes for each of the queues. Elko provides a single message queue that is shared by multiple queue managers, and Faulkner provides a software component for a queue that automatically detects and recovers from channel and sequence errors. For all these reasons stated above, these references, either alone or in combination, fail to teach, disclose, or suggest Applicants' invention as claimed in pending claims 1-17, and Applicants respectfully request allowance of these claims.

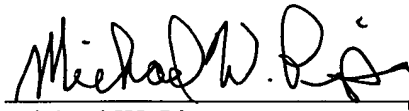
Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for full allowance for the reasons stated above, and Applicants respectfully request such allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or comments or feels it would be helpful in expediting the application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (972) 731-2288. This correspondence is intended to be a complete response to the Office Action dated March 21, 2005.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any further fees associated with any of the foregoing papers submitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment thereof, to Deposit Account No. 21-0765, Sprint.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 21, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Piper", written over a horizontal line.

Michael W. Piper
Reg. No. 39,800

CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
5700 Granite Parkway, Suite 330
Plano, Texas 75024
(972) 731-2288
(972) 731-2289 (facsimile)

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT